Faulk, Camilla

From:

Tim Rasmussen [trasmussen@co.stevens.wa.us]

Sent:

Friday, April 18, 2008 12:22 PM

To:

Faulk, Camilla

Subject:

proposed court rules

Please consider the impact these proposals will have on our court system and do not enact them as proposed.

The arraignment calendars are time consuming for all concerned and to have all the arraignment language read at each arraignment to each defendant would be very difficult for all concerned. The requirement that it be read by a particular person is silly. The point is to make that the defendants understand why they are there. To read all the technical language to each and every defendant individually would frustrate that purpose not enhance it. Most defendants can understand if someone explains in common sense speech what the charge is.

Under this rule, no beginning lawyer would qualify to represent anyone charged with even a fishing violation. The bar exam sets the basic standards for beginning lawyers

To make any violation of the rules a cause for an ethical challenge to the judge is impractical and wrong. Save the ethical violations for those few occasions where the judges really do something wrong. Do not clog the system with these hyper sensitive rules with huge potential penalties for any perceived violations.

Some of these proposed rules go far beyond the protections of the law and the constitution and are the result of warped and personal ideas about what justice should look like rather that what the law and the constitution require.

Do not let the bar association usurp the legislature and the courts and the whole body of law developed over the years.

Tim Rasmussen
Stevens County Prosecuting Attorney
Stevens County Washington